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ZNR UUUUU

R 190917Z DEC 86
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
R 190123Z DEC 86
FM FBIS BANGKOK TH
TO RUTLAAA/FBIS WASHINGTON DC
RUDOMKB/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC//
RHHMBRA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI
RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//
RUCQAAA/USCINCENT INTELLIGENCE CENTER MACDILL AFB FL
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PK
RUEHIL/VOA ISLAMABAD PK//LARRIMORE//
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PK
RUDOMKE/FBIS LONDON UK
RUEBHAA/STORAGE CENTER FBIS WASHINGTON DC
RUEHND/VOA NEW DELHI IN
RUEKJCS/DEFINTAGENCY WASH DC
RUHQHQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI
RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
RUQMFV/FBIS TEL AVIV IS
ACCT FBBK-EWDK

BT

EZ1:

UNCLAS 8F/LD

EZ2:

ATTN TEL AVIV DFDF

SUBJ

<> PAKISTAN: USSR ENVOY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT <><>AFGHAN<><> SOLUTION
BK190123

ISLAMABAD THE MUSLIM IN ENGLISH 11 DEC 86 P 8

((TEXT)) KARACHI, DEC, 10 -- SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN

<> ABDUL-RAKHMAN KHALIL OGLY VEZIROV, WHO EXPRESSED DEEP OPTIMISM
ABOUT A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF <><>AFGHAN<><> QUESTION IN THE 'NEAR
FUTURE', SAID 'PEOPLE MAY HEAR GOOD NEWS VERY SOON.'

HE WAS REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY NEWSMEN AFTER HIS ADDRESS AT
'MEET THE PRESS' PROGRAMME AT THE KARACHI PRESS CLUB HERE THIS
AFTERNOON.

ASKED TO EXPLAIN REASONS FOR HIS OPTIMISM VEZIROV SAID THE
SOVIET PEOPLE ARE GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC, AND LISTED FOLLOWING
POINTS IN SUPPORT OF HIS HOPEFULNESS.

<> (A) POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS INSIDE <><>AFGHANISTAN<><> SUCH AS
SUCCESSFUL PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION, REFORMS PERTAINING TO LAND
AND OTHER SECTORS OF LIFE (B) REALISATION THAT THE WAR BEING
WAGED FROM OUTSIDE IS SENSELESS AND NOT GOING TO SUCCEED (C) A

' GENERAL DESIRE EVERYWHERE FOR A SETTLEMENT (D) U.N. REPRESENTATIVE CORDOVEZ HAS HIMSELF STRESSED THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE TALKS AND
<> (E) THE VERY FACT THAT <><>KABUL<><> AND ISLAMABAD HAVE AGREED TO GO TO GENEVA AGAIN.

HE, HOWEVER, REFUTED WESTERN PROPAGANDA THAT THE ONLY
<> PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED IN REGARD TO <><>AFGHANISTAN<><> WAS FORCING THE SOVIETS TO WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS. HE SAID TROOP WITHDRAWAL IS INTERLINKED WITH THE STOPPAGE OF 'INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL
<> AFFAIRS OF <><>AFGHANISTAN<><>'. HE SAID THE SOVIET UNION BY WITHDRAWAL ((AS PUBLISHED)) SIX REGIMENTS UNILATERALLY HAS PROVED ITS SINCERITY TO HAVE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT AT THE EARLIEST.

HE SAID MR GORBACHEV IN HIS STATEMENTS IN NEW DELHI HAS MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THE SOVIET UNION WANTED TO SEE
<> <><>AFGHANISTAN<><> AS A SECURE, INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED STATE, HE POINTED OUT.

<> REPLYING TO A QUESTION HE SAID <><>AFGHANISTAN<><> IS NOT A SOCIALIST STATE BUT PASSING THROUGH A 'NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION'.

HE TLD A QUESTIONER THAT IT WAS 'AT THE SOVIET INITIATIVE THAT PAKISTAN'S FOREIGN SECRETARY VISITED MOSCOW AND HAD TALKS WITH THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND HE IS CONFIDENT THAT THE OUTCOME OF THESE TALKS WOULD FURTHER IMPROVE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

HE DENIED A SUGGESTION THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ASIAN SECURITY WAS AIMED AT 'ESTABLISHING SOVIET HEGEMONY IN ASIA' AND SAID IT WAS THE REVERSE OF IT AS THE PROPOSAL PROVIDED GUARANTEES AGAINST 'HEGEMONY OF ANY ONE COUNTRY OVER THE OTHERS; ACCORDING TO HIM THE SOVIET SCHEME ENVISAGES A NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC AND A NUCLEAR FREE INDIAN OCEAN.

ASKED TO EXPLAIN THE FACTORS BEHIND THE RECENT INTERNAL CHANGES
<> IN <><>AFGHANISTAN<><> SUCH AS REPLACEMENT OF BABRAK KARMAL ETC. VEZIROV
<> SAID THE <><>KABUL<><> ADMINISTRATION IS STRIVING FOR A GRAND RECONCILIATION, IT IS PROCEEDING WITH SPEEDY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS LAND REFORMS ETC. AND IMPROVING DEFENCE AS WELL AS ECONOMIC SITUATION. HE SAID IT WAS BECAUSE OF IMPROVEMENT IN DEFENCE SITUATION THAT THE SOVIET UNION WAS ABLE TO WITHDRAW SIX REGIMENTS.

Executing prisoners?

HE TOLD A QUESTION THAT CONTRADICTIONS WITHIN THE CAPITALIST WORLD AND THOSE IN THE SOCIALIST CAMP ARE NOT SIMILAR. WHAT HAPPENED IN HUNGARY AND POLAND WAS ISSUES CONNECTED WITH AND ARISING OUT OF 'DEVELOPMENT'. HE SAID DIFFERENCES WITH CHINA WHICH IS A SOCIALIST COUNTRY HAVE NARROWED DOWN AND THE TWO ARE DEVELOPING FRIENDLIER RELATIONS.

EARLIER HE EXPLAINED THE FUNDAMENTALS OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY AND SAID THE MAIN INTERNATIONAL TASK OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IS TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND MAKE THE WORLD FREE OF NUCLEAR AND DESTRUCTIVE WEAPONS.

MESSERS AFTAB SYED AND SABIHUDDIN GHAUSI, PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE KARACHI PRESS CLUB RESPECTIVELY WELCOMED THE DISTINGUISHED GUEST.

(ENDALL) 11 DEC [REDACTED] 19/0753Z DEC

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